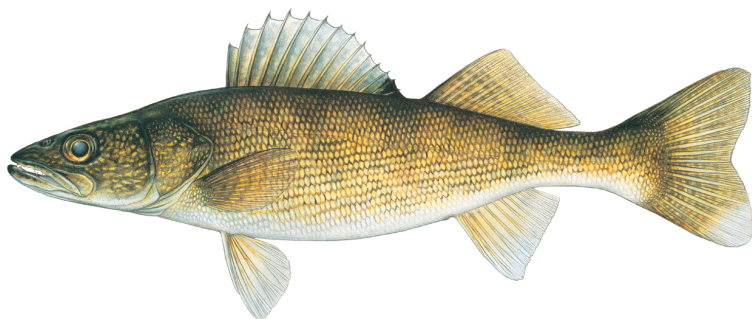


Walleye

Stizostedion vitreum



Similar Species: Sauger (and saugeye)

Identification: Large white, glossy eyes and sharp teeth, no distinct mottling, caudal (tail) fin has white tip on lower lobe, dark spot at base of dorsal fin.

Walleyes are the state fish of South Dakota and are found throughout the state, inhabiting the open water of lakes and reservoirs and pools in streams. They eat primarily fish, but also other vertebrates and invertebrates. Spawning occurs when water temperature reaches about 45 F. The eggs are distributed over rock and gravel. A large number of walleyes are annually propagated by the South Dakota Department of Game, Fish and Parks to maintain populations where natural reproduction is lacking. The walleye is the largest member of the perch family and can weigh up to 15 pounds in South Dakota. Its size, sporting qualities, and delicious flesh make it a highly prized sport species.

